

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

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COMM:BIC/OTP:STA:GBARE STATE:EUR/NE:SDAWKINS

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TO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EI

SUBJ: IRISH RESTRICTIONS ON MOTOR VEHICLES

REF: A. STATE 160739

B. GENEVA 3740

C. DUBLIN 906

1. PROTOCOL NO. 7 OF IRISH ACCESSION TREATY WITH EC

(PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF MARCH 27, 1972) DEALS

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WITH MOTOR VEHICLE IMPORTS AND ASSEMBLY IN IRELAND. THE

PROTOCOL AUTHORIZED IRELAND TO RETAIN THE MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION OF IMPORTERS SCHEME UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1985. ARTICLE THREE OF THE PROTOCOL DESCRIBES A " GLOBAL QUOTA" WHICH IRELAND SHALL OPEN " TO THE OTHER MEMBER STATES IN RESPECT OF VEHICLES ORIGINATING IN THE COMMUNITY OTHER THAN THOSE COVERED BY SPECIAL TREATMENT UNDER THE SCHEME." IF FURTHER PROVIDES THAT THE IRISH GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO FACILITATE FULL USE OF THE " GLOBAL QUOTA" WHEN IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT THE QUOTA WILL NOT BE FULLY USED. THE QUOTA FOR 1973, ACCORDING TO THE PROTOCOL, IS THREE PERCENT OF VEHICLES ASSEMBLED IN IRELAND IN 1972.

2. REVIEW BY GATT WORKING PARTY ON EC ACCESSION INCLUDED QUESTION AND ANSWER ON PROTOCOL NO. 7 ON MOTOR VEHICLES. QUESTION 44, PAGE 17, GATT DOCUMENT L/3754 OF OCTOBER 26, 1972, DESCRIBES PROVISIONS OF PROTOCOL AND ASK "... IN VIEW OF THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 3 OF PROTOCOL NO. 7, HOW DOES IRELAND INTEND TO TREAT IMPORTS OF MOTOR VEHICLES FROM THIRD COUNTRIES? DO THESE PROVISIONS CONTAIN ANY OBLIGATION BY IRELAND TO IMPORT THE SUBJECT VEHICLES FROM OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBER STATES TO THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE QUOTA FOR EACH YEAR FROM 1973 THROUGH 1984?"

3. THE REPLY WAS AS FOLLOWS: "IRELAND IS AUTHORIZED TO RETAIN UNTIL 1 JANUARY 1985 THE SYSTEM AT PRESENT APPLICABLE TO THE ASSEMBLY AND IMPORT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. PROTOCOL NO. 7 DEFINES THE CONDITIONS ACCORDING TO WHICH COMMUNITY PREFERENCE WILL BE ASSURED UNDER THIS SCHEME. FOR THE IMPORT OF VEHICLES OTHER THAN THOSE COVERED BY THE SCHEME, COMMUNITY PREFERENCE IS ASSURED BY GLOBAL QUOTA WHICH IRELAND WILL OPEN TO THE OTHER MEMBER STATES ON ACCESSION. THE AMOUNT OF THIS GLOBAL QUOTA AND THE DETAILS OF ITS ANNUAL INCREASE DEFINE IN CONCRETE TERMS IRELAND'S OBLIGATIONS IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY PREFERENCES FOR SUCH PRODUCTS. TO THIS END, THE PROTOCOL PROVIDES FOR A MECHANISM TO ENSURE THE FULLEST UTILIZATION OF THE QUOTA."

4. ACTION: A). EMBASSY REQUESTED ASCERTAIN WHAT THREE PERCENT QUOTA FOR 1973 AMOUNTS TO IN ABSOLUTE TERMS.

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B). WHAT IS MEANT BY VEHICLES " OTHER THAN THOSE COVERED BY SPECIAL TREATMENT UNDER THE SCHEME"? DOES THIS REFER TO VEHICLES IMPORTED BY PERSONS NOT REGISTERED UNDER IRISH MOTOR VEHICLES (REGISTRATION OF IMPORTERS) ACT? C). WHAT IS EXPECTED IMPACT OF QUOTA ON IRELAND'S MOTOR VEHICLE INDUSTRY AND ON SOURCINGS OF IMPORTS OF BUILT-UP VEHICLES?

D) WHAT HAS BEEN IRISH GOVERNMENT REACTION TO U.S. REPRESENTATION?

SENTATION ON REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT PER INSTRUCTION
REF A? ANY OTHER INFORMATION AND COMMENTS WHICH THE EMBASSY
MAY WISH TO PROVIDE ON THIS CASE WILL BE WELCOME.

5. FYI. U.S. WILL SUBMIT NOTIFICATION TO GATT FOR INVENTORY
OF NONTARIFF BARRIERS ON IRISH MOTOR VEHICLES (REGISTRATION
OF IMPORTERS) ACT. NOTIFICATION WILL BE LISTED UNDER MIXING
REGULATIONS SINCE IRISH CLAIM REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT IS
NOT A QUOTA. OUR NOTIFICATION DOES NOT DEAL WITH QUOTA
ARRANGEMENT IN ACCESSION TREATY. END FYI.
DECONTROL FOLLOWING SEPTEMBER 10, 1974. RUSH

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